

Message Text

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NESCO

PASS DHEW/USOE:LEESTMA,COTNER: USNATCOM; INFO:DHEW:BERRY,
WYATT; USOE:BOYER,ELLIS,PIERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: POSSIBLE US INITIATIVES AND/OR POSITIONS CONCERNING
EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT 20TH SESSION OF UNESCO GENER-
AL CONFERENCE 24 OCTOBER - 28 NOVEMBER 1978, PARIS.

REF: (A) TINSMAN CONVERSATIONS WITH ASST SEC OF ED BERRY
AND PIERCE, ELLIS, MARTIN AND LEESTMA OF USOE DEC 77
(B) TINSMAN-COTNER,CASELLO, LAWTON MEMO FEB 10, 1978
(C) PARIS 08936

1. IF US WISHES TO UNDERTAKE ANY MAJOR EDUCATION INITIA-
TIVES OR PROMOTE US POSITIONS AT SUBJECT CONFERENCE, ITS
CHANCES OF BEING SUCCESSFUL WILL BE ENHANCED IF SUCH
INITIATIVES CAN BE IDENTIFIED AT AN EARLY DATE. REFCONS
(A). EARLY IDENTIFICATION WOULD ALLOW DEPARTMENT, USOE,
NATCOM, PERMDEL AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES OR ORGANIZA-
TIONS TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY STRATEGIES TO CO-
ORDINATE THE NATIONAL THRUST, LAY PRELIMINARY GROUNDWORK
WITH UNESCO SECRETARIAT, AND WORK WITH OTHER PERMDELS AND
GOVERNMENTS.

2. FYI: MANUAL OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE UNDER PARA 78 OF
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RULES OF PROCEDURE PROVIDES GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING
DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (DRS). DRS WHICH PROVIDE FOR NEW
ACTIVITIES CALLING FOR AN INCREASE IN UNESCO BUDGET OF
MORE THAN \$5,000 MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT NO
LATER THAN AUGUST 8, 1978. DRS IMPLYING AN INCREASE OF
\$5,000 OR LESS MAY BE SUBMITTED UP TO THE END OF THE
SEVENTH WORKING DAY OF THE SESSION--OCTOBER 31. END FYI.

3. IN SPITE OF THESE LATE DEADLINES PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT MAJOR INITIATIVES BE IDENTIFIED PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF 104TH SESSION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD--APRIL 25. SUCH ACTION WOULD ALLOW PERMDEL DURING EXBD SESSION TO EXPLORE AND ESTIMATE AMOUNT OF POSSIBLE SUPPORT AND IDENTIFY POTENTIAL TRADE OFFS. FURTHERMORE, AT ITS 104TH SESSION EXBD WILL PROPOSE AGENDA FOR 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE.

4. TO BE SUCCESSFUL THE NUMBER OF MAJOR INITIATIVE(S) SHOULD BE LIMITED TO ONE TO THREE IN WHICH THE US IS MOST INTERESTED. BASED ON EARLIER US EFFORTS AND UNESCO PRIORITIES PERMDEL SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING AS POSSIBLE INITIATIVES:

A. EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED. US SHOULD SEEK AN INCREASED EMPHASIS IN THIS PROGRAM CALLING FOR AN EXPANSION TO INCLUDE ALL HANDICAPPED PERSONS, THEIR RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS, ETC. IT COULD PROPOSE AN INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS MEETING TO RECOMMEND DIRECTION AND PRIORITIES FOR UNESCO'S PROGRAM. THIS DR SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD THE 20C/4 DOCUMENT RECOMMENDING INCREASED PROGRAM RESOURCES FOR THE HANDICAPPED IN THE 21C/5 PROGRAM AND BUDGET.

B. EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE. THIS TOPIC HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED

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BY UNESCO (AND IBE) AS ONE OF THREE MAJOR EDUCATION EMPHASES FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS. THIS THRUST, MORE THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE PRIORITY, WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF UNESCO'S EDUCATION PROGRAMS. THIS PROGRAM WILL CONCENTRATE ON PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTENT OF EDUCATION IN THE 1980'S AND 1990'S. US COULD IDENTIFY THOSE PRIORITIES IT FEELS ARE IMPORTANT, E.G., GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES INCLUDING EDUCATION FOR PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUCTION, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, ENERGY CONSERVATION, ETC.

C. EDUCATION AND WORK RELATIONSHIP. THIS IS ANOTHER OF THE THREE TOPICS IDENTIFIED BY UNESCO FOR MAJOR EMPHASIS DURING THIS MEDIUM TERM PLANNING PERIOD. US INITIATIVE IN THIS AREA SHOULD BUILD UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION, DENVER 1976 AND 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE DR 89 SUBMITTED BY U.S. AND LIBERIA. IT SHOULD

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SUPPORT THE ADDITION OF VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION AS A SEPARATE, FULL OBJECTIVE (5.8) IN CHAPTER V (EDUCATION) OF THE 20C/4 DOCUMENT. SUCH INITIATIVE SHOULD STRESS VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN THE BROADER SENSE OF THE EDUCATION-WORK, EDUCATION-BUSINESS-INDUSTRY RELATIONSHIP. CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION SEE REF MEMO (B).

D. HIGHER EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. THOUGH UNESCO'S BUDGET FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS WILL BE LOW, THIS RELATIONSHIP IS ONE WHICH UNESCO WILL STRESS. BECAUSE OF ITS VAST EXPERIENCE IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MOVEMENT AND MORE RECENT EXPERIENCE IN INVOLVING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHES) IN ASSISTING URBAN COMMUNITIES TO ATTACK THEIR PROBLEMS, US HAS MUCH TO OFFER UNESCO IN THIS AREA. US COULD PROFIT FROM ITS PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A PROGRAM E.G. LINKAGES WITH OTHER IHES, CONSULTANCIES, BROADENING OF KNOWLEDGE BASE, STUDENT EXCHANGE, INCREASED US INFLUENCE, ETC.

5. PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING OTHER POSSIBLE INITIATIVES OR PROGRAMS WORTHY OF SUPPORT ARE:

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A. DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION. THIS UNESCO PROGRAM

IS A DIRECT RESULT OF A PREVIOUS US INITIATIVE. IT RECEIVED LOW PRIORITY ON THE RESULTS OF THE MEMBER STATES' QUESTIONNAIRE. IF US WISHES TO ASSURE THAT THIS PROGRAM IS CONTINUED, IT WILL NEED TO SOLICIT SUPPORT OF WESTERN AND SYMPATHETIC THIRD WORLD MEMBER STATES. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS CONSULTATION WITH NOWLIS (USOE) AND J.P. SMITH (NIMH).

B. EDUCATION FOR PEACE AND INT'L UNDERSTANDING. US SHOULD INDICATE ACTIVITIES AND CONTENT IT DESIRES AND REGARDS AS IMPORTANT. PAST HISTORY WOULD INDICATE USSR WILL SUBMIT A DR ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH USG MAY FIND NECESSARY TO OPPOSE. LYONS (DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY) IS WELL QUALIFIED ON THIS ISSUE.

C. INSTRUCTION IN HUMAN RIGHTS. RECOMMENDATION IN PARA B ABOVE APPLIES, ALTHOUGH US MAY WISH TO CONSIDER RESULTS ON INT'L CONGRESS ON TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL, VIENNA, SEPT 1978 BEFORE FINALIZING POSITION. BURGENTHAL (UNIV OF TEXAS) AND TORNEY (UNIV OF ILLINOIS) SHOULD BE HELPFUL.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. RECOMMENDATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE 1976 ARE PERTINENT, AS WILL BE RESULTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HELD IN WASHINGTON DC END OF MARCH. US SHOULD CAPITALIZE ON TBILSI CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH IT SUPPORTS. ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SHOULD BE CONSULTED.

E. EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PARENT EDUCATION. THIS POTENTIALLY USEFUL PROGRAM RECEIVES LOW PRIORITY IN UNESCO. IT UNCLASSIFIED

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DESERVES US SUPPORT FOR INCREASED EMPHASIS IN THE 20C/4 DOCUMENT AND BUDGET INCREASE IN THE 2LC/5.

F. LITERACY. IF US INCREASES ITS INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD AS IT APPARENTLY WISHES TO DO, US MAY WISH TO RECOMMEND SELECTED ACTIVITIES. SEE REFTEL (C).

G. EDUCATION OF WOMEN. IN RECENT PAST US ALONG WITH NEPAL AND OTHERS HAS BEEN LEADER IN ATTEMPTING TO BRING ABOUT EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN. ANY SUCH INITIATIVE SHOULD BE COORDINATED WITH POTENTIAL US GENERAL RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN.

H. POPULATION EDUCATION. THIS PROGRAM IS RESULT OF PAST US INITIATIVE AND DESERVES SUPPORT.

6. PERMDEL WILL MAKE FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS AFTER
ANALYSIS OF 20C/5 AND 20C/4 DOCUMENTS.
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